

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A sub-caliber projectile comprising:

a sub-caliber penetrator ~~dimensioned to have~~ having a caliber less than ~~the~~ a caliber of a gun barrel for firing the penetrator, said penetrator having a lengthwise central axis;

a sabot dimensioned to have a caliber substantially equal ~~to said~~ a gun barrel caliber and comprising at least two segments and surrounding said sub-caliber penetrator, wherein~~[[:]]~~ each segment sabot comprises:

a rear support seat comprising radial studs of substantially full gun barrel caliber located at a rear end of said segment;

a median support seat including a push plate of substantially full gun barrel caliber located near the center of gravity of said sub-caliber projectile; and

a forward support seat having radial arms of substantially full gun barrel caliber located at a front end of said segment in front of said median support seat, wherein said segment has a sub-caliber radial extent of some axial length between said median support seat and said forward support seat ~~at least three support seats having said gun barrel caliber and supporting said sub-caliber penetrator adjacent the internal surface of said gun barrel, said support seats including a forward support seat, a median support seat and a rear support seat spaced from one another along said lengthwise axis, and~~

~~said support seat comprises a profile for causing separation of said at least two segments from the sabot upon exiting a barrel.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The projectile according to Claim 1, wherein the axial distance between ~~said two supports being the furthest apart~~ said rear support seat and said forward support seat is ~~3 calibers~~ not less than three times the gun barrel caliber.

3. (Currently Amended) The projectile according to Claim 1, further comprising a band, ~~wherein a median of said at least one support seat comprises a push plate having at least one groove to receive~~ therein for receiving said band, ~~and said median support seat is located axially between said two other support seats.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The projectile according to Claim 3, wherein said push plate is positioned at an axial distance from a median transverse plane (PM), said plane being orthogonal to said penetrator and passing through the center of gravity of said projectile, said distance being between 0.5 and 1.5 times ~~the~~ full gun barrel caliber.

5. (Currently Amended) The projectile according to Claim 4, wherein said ~~forward support seat comprises~~ radial arms are angularly spaced around the axis of said sabot.

6. (Previously Presented) The projectile according to Claim 5, wherein each said arm comprises a foot comprising a plastic material for ensuring guidance of said sabot in a gun barrel.

7. (Currently Amended) The projectile according to Claim 1, wherein said ~~rear support seat~~ comprises radial studs[[,]] are evenly angularly spaced around said sabot.

8. (Previously Presented) The projectile according to Claim 7, wherein each said radial stud is integral with a segment of said sabot.

9. (Withdrawn) A projectile according to Claim 7, characterized in that each said radial stud formed by the juxtaposition of two parts, each integral with a separate segment of said sabot.

10. (Withdrawn) A projectile according to Claim 9, characterized in that each said radial stud carries a foot of friction resistant material, for example steel, ensuring the guidance of said sabot in said barrel.